

---

**Introduced by Senator Maldonado**

February 16, 2005

---

An act to add Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) to Part 28 of the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 338, as introduced, Maldonado. School curricula: Internet safety.

(1) Existing law prescribes various matters to be included in the adopted course of study at the appropriate elementary and secondary grade levels.

This bill would, commencing with the 2006-07 school year, require a school district to adopt and implement curricula on Internet safety education, as specified, to be incorporated into the adopted course of study, thus imposing a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

1 (a) Pupils are spending increasingly greater amounts of time  
2 interacting on the Internet in the course of both research and  
3 social interaction.

4 (b) With the increase in worldwide Internet use, many safety  
5 concerns have arisen with regard to Internet use, including  
6 concerns as to personal safety, privacy, and the protection of  
7 intellectual property.

8 (c) Increased use of the Internet as an educational tool has  
9 raised concerns in the areas of cheating, plagiarism, and illegal  
10 downloading, and pupils are more tempted than ever to engage in  
11 unethical, and sometimes unlawful, practices in these areas.  
12 Without providing warnings or raising pupil awareness as to  
13 these dangers, the ease of Internet use and the availability of  
14 resources is likely to cause some younger pupils to engage in  
15 these practices ignorantly,

16 (d) The risks and dangers that are increasingly associated with  
17 Internet use are as real and as dangerous to pupils and to society  
18 as the more familiar physical dangers addressed in school safety  
19 plans and codes of conduct, and it is in the best interests of the  
20 state to educate pupils concerning these risks and dangers.

21 SEC. 2. Chapter 5.8 (commencing with Section 51950) is  
22 added to Part 28 of the Education Code, to read:

23  
24 CHAPTER 5.8. INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION  
25

26 51950. (a) Commencing with the 2006-07 school year, the  
27 governing board of a school district shall adopt and implement  
28 comprehensive, age-appropriate curricula in kindergarten and  
29 grades 1 to 12, inclusive, that provides instruction on safety in  
30 working and interacting on the Internet.

31 (b) The curricula shall include all of the following topics:

- 32 (1) Interaction with persons in the cyber community.
- 33 (2) Personal safety in interacting with persons on the Internet.
- 34 (3) Recognition and avoidance of on-line bullying.
- 35 (4) Technology, computer virus issues, and methods to avoid  
36 computer virus infection.
- 37 (5) Predator identification.
- 38 (6) Intellectual property, including education concerning  
39 plagiarism and techniques to avoid committing plagiarism and

1 laws concerning downloading copyrighted materials including  
2 music.

3 (7) Privacy and the Internet.

4 (8) On-line literacy, including instruction on methods of  
5 identifying credible, factual, trustworthy Web sites.

6 (9) Homeland security issues related to Internet use.

7 (c) The curricula shall be incorporated into the course of study  
8 required pursuant to Chapter 2, rather than isolating the curricula  
9 as a separate class.

10 (d) A school district is encouraged to use available Internet  
11 safety curricula resources, including materials available through  
12 nonprofit Internet safety foundations that are endorsed by the  
13 federal government. A school district is also encouraged to  
14 collaborate with a local law enforcement agency in the  
15 development of the curricula, particularly with regard to topics  
16 that address personal safety on the Internet, predator  
17 identification, privacy, and homeland security.

18 (e) A school district shall annually review and, if necessary,  
19 revise the curriculum.

20 (f) (1) A school district shall designate a person responsible  
21 for overseeing implementation of the curricula in each school in  
22 the school district.

23 (2) The person designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall  
24 submit an annual curricula implementation report to the  
25 governing board of the school district that provides an overview  
26 of the curricula. The governing board shall forward the report to  
27 the department and make the report available on the Web site of  
28 the school district.

29 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
30 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
31 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
32 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
33 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.